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Summary of Community Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program Applications October 10, 2012

Since the adoption of GO TO 2040, CMAP has established two programs, the Community Planning program and the Local Technical Assistance (LTA) program, to direct resources to communities to pursue planning work that helps to implement GO TO 2040. The Community Planning program provides grants and consultant assistance to projects that link land use and transportation planning, and is administered in partnership with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). The LTA program provides staff assistance and small grants for a wide range of projects. CMAP's governing boards approved the selection of new projects for these programs at their October 10 meeting.

The remainder of this document provides short summaries of each selected project, organized by geography. Most projects were submitted to the LTA program, and those submitted to the Community Planning program are specifically noted. CMAP's understanding of some of these projects may change through discussions with the applicants, so the descriptions in this document should be considered preliminary.

Chicago

Chicago Department of Housing and Economic Development (DHED)

- Community planning process for the Pilsen and Little Village communities to build on work of Fisk Crawford Reuse task force, which has focused on next steps for the two coal-fired power plants scheduled to close in 2012. Affordable housing, local retail, historic resources, parks and access to the river should be addressed, in a process similar to the Green Healthy Neighborhoods (GHN) project currently in progress in five Chicago neighborhoods.
- Garfield Park Kedzie Avenue Corridor Plan: Plan seeks to attract new businesses, support existing ones, stabilize the housing stock, enhance transit access, and create safe outlets for recreation through the formulation of strategies that create a more attractive neighborhood, provide increased access to CTA rail and bus facilities, and transform vacant and underutilized properties into more appealing locations for economic development. Additionally, plan proposes development of recommendations that focus on public health by providing improved access to an interconnected trail/sidewalk system and diverse food options. This application was submitted for grant funding under the Community Planning program.

Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community

• **Comprehensive community plan** to shape the Chinatown area's development, building on its recent centennial celebration. Includes stakeholder meetings to discuss concerns

and priorities with regard to land use, workforce and economic development, housing, transportation, education, social services, arts and culture, and recreation.

University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

• **Review of transit and streetscape infrastructure** in to improve safety and accessibility for residents and visitors to the UIC area. Address outdated street signalization which does not accommodate persons with disabilities, missing bus shelters and street furniture, needed signalization for safety of pedestrians and cyclists, and incomplete biking network. *This project was submitted to both the LTA program and the Community Planning program.*

Wicker Park Bucktown (WPB) Chamber of Commerce / Special Service Area #33

• Comprehensive parking study and recommendations to develop a state-of-the-art parking strategy while addressing the needs of all stakeholders. Includes inventory of existing parking, a demand analysis, and a review of zoning and local ordinances.

North and Northwest Cook County

Evanston

• **Update to the 2003 Bicycle System Improvement Plan** with consideration for safety and implementation of the Climate Action Plan. Plan seeks to increase bicycling, walking and transit use, improve traffic safety, enhance local businesses, and foster a healthier, more environmentally friendly community. Proposed plan update will be guided by Evanston's three value areas: economic viability, environmental sustainability, and community strengthening. *This application was submitted for grant funding under the Community Planning program*.

Hoffman Estates

Creation of education and workforce development plan for the I-90 Golden Corridor
manufacturing cluster. Also, assistance in identifying and contacting education and
manufacturing partners in the corridor. Hoffman Estates serves as coordinating agency
for a group of municipalities, trade organizations, school districts, and community
groups along the I-90 corridor.

Lincolnwood

• Subarea corridor plan for Devon Avenue, from McCormick Boulevard to Lincoln Avenue. This project request includes a market study of the corridor, alternative land uses, and a streetscape plan. The City of Chicago will also be a participant in this project.

Niles

• Development of a plan to promote an environmentally-friendly multi-modal transportation system that will build off of the existing Comprehensive Plan, the Arterial Rapid Transit Plan, and the Environmental Action Plan currently under development. The plan seeks to develop a comprehensive active transportation network that integrates with existing roadway and transit networks, enhance awareness of

existing and planned transportation networks, and implement policies and programs supportive of the multi-modal transportation network. *This application was submitted for grant funding under the Community Planning program*.

Northwest Municipal Conference

• Study and recommend improvement to Forest Preserve access for the Northern Cook County Des Plaines River corridor, an underutilized recreational facility. Scope of the plan would be to review the existing access to and within the Forest Preserve, review regional and community plans for non-motorized transportation, and formulate a strategy for improving access. The communities involved include Des Plaines, Glenview, Mount Prospect, Niles, Northbrook, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, and Wheeling, with participation from the Forest Preserve District and Active Transportation Alliance as well. *This project was submitted to both the LTA program and the Community Planning program.*

Prospect Heights

• **Update of Comprehensive Land Use Plan** with a focus on transportation. City is in the second phase of roadway improvements made possible by the passing of a referendum in 2010 that allowed \$15 million for road and drainage improvements. Proposed plan will provide a definitive direction on the City's requirements for zoning and transportation upgrades, specifically maximization of the usage and accessibility of the Metra station, the bus service and the Chicago Executive Airport. *This application was submitted for grant funding under the Community Planning program*.

West Cook County

Berwyn

• Study and plan to address parking challenges faced within the City's historic Depot District. Parking focus is a result of previous planning work involving Depot area, including 2007 RTA TOD Study, 2012 Comprehensive Plan Update, and 2012 Homes for a Changing Region study.

Cicero

• **Update to the Town of Cicero comprehensive plan**. Cicero has completed several supplementary planning studies in recent years, but has been without an updated Comprehensive Plan since the mid-1970s.

Franklin Park

• Study of the community's western industrial area, a significant site due to its proximity to O'Hare International Airport. Currently, no plan exists to address degrading infrastructure at the site, increased competition from other areas, or potentially significant impacts from the Elgin O'Hare West Bypass project.

Lyons

• **Development of a comprehensive plan** to aid in the redevelopment of several central business areas, an industrial corridor, and a soon-to-be-reclaimed quarry. Lyons also

looking for ways to capitalize on its access and proximity to county parks, and linkage of these areas to retail and commercial corridors.

Rosemont

• **Update to the comprehensive plan**, adopted in 1977. Specific topics to be addressed including housing affordability, multi-modal transportation, and community parks.

Seven Generations Ahead

Assist in data aggregation of community resource use per Environmental
 Sustainability Plan for Oak Park and River Forest. Also, request assistance in aligning
 indicators with GO TO 2040 Plan indicators, and in developing a protocol for data
 aggregation that can be used by other communities.

Summit

Develop first comprehensive plan for the city. Utilize Full Circle technology to capture
information regarding land use and housing. Promote transit-oriented development at
Summit's commuter rail station, as well as new transit options to capitalize on Summit's
proximity to Midway Airport.

Southwest Cook County

Worth

Planning prioritization report, designed to assist the community to review and
prioritize among several different planning-related projects, including a comprehensive
plan update, zoning ordinance review, transit-oriented development planning, and
planning for a growing senior population.

South Cook County

Calumet City

• **Create a comprehensive plan** that integrates land use and transportation, specifically by addressing gaps and inconsistencies in the existing transportation network and the increase in vacant lots that may be repurposed or redeveloped. *This application was submitted for grant funding under the Community Planning program.*

Chicago Heights

• **Update to comprehensive plan** (adopted 1994), focusing on revitalization through economic development and housing. Partnering with Habitat for Humanity, which is heading a housing task force collaborative.

Dixmoor

Dixmoor submitted a variety of planning requests, including general community
planning assistance, development of a comprehensive plan, review of local codes and
ordinances that relate to land use, and creation of a web portal for improved access to
municipal services and venue for resident input. The comprehensive plan update was
selected for assistance.

Lan-Oak Park District

• **Update of comprehensive plan** (adopted 1994). Either through update or separately, also request assistance determining what role the park district can play in the revitalization of downtown Lansing, explore expansion of their service area, and study the impact of a local portion of the Grand Illinois Trail.

Markham

• **Update current comprehensive plan**. The community is using its 1976 comprehensive plan for its planning needs, and would like to address transportation, housing, land use, and parks issues.

Park Forest (also included in Will)

Revision of the zoning ordinance, including up-to-date development ordinances and
infrastructure design standards, and streamlined development review processes. Village
has undertaken TOD planning and land banking; revisions to zoning ordinance needed
to ensure these tools can be used effectively.

DuPage County

Addison, Bensenville, Villa Park, and Wood Dale

 Neighboring municipalities with similar housing stock seek a Homes for a Changing Region analysis. Addison to serve as the coordinating agency for the project, with participation from Bensenville, Villa Park, and Wood Dale.

Bensenville

• **Updates to comprehensive plan** (adopted in 1980, with updates in 2004) in light of predicted impacts of the Elgin O'Hare West Bypass project. Coordination with Homes for a Changing Region project (led by Addison, described above) will occur.

DuPage Water Commission (DWC)

• Survey of utility managers and conservation coordinators to get a better understanding of their barriers to promoting water conservation. Develop a workshop and training curriculum (manual) based on analysis of survey responses, and outreach materials geared toward elected officials.

Hinsdale

 Analysis and recommendations for improving downtown parking system. Currently, metered, on-street parking serves a compact, walkable central business area. However, some business owners feel metered parking puts them at a competitive disadvantage.

Kane County

Big Rock

• **Update to original comprehensive land use plan**, written and adopted in 2003. Kane County Development Department has committed provide technical assistance to this

project, which would supplement CMAP's work. New topics to be included in this update include community health, sustainability, food, and energy.

Carpentersville, East Dundee, Elgin, and West Dundee

• Develop a **Homes for a Changing Region study** and implementation plan for communities in northeastern Kane County. The application was led by Carpentersville, with participation by Elgin, East Dundee, and West Dundee.

Ferson-Otter Creek Watershed

• Review of the land development regulations of local governments within the watershed and preparation of specific amendments to implement the recommendations of the Ferson-Otter Creek Watershed Plan (2012). Watershed Plan found development policies in several municipalities within the group to be harmful to health of the watershed. It is necessary to tailor recommendations to each community's situation and governmental structure. The application was submitted by Elgin, with participation in the watershed plan by Campton Hills, Lily Lake, South Elgin, St. Charles, and Kane County.

Geneva, Batavia, North Aurora, and St. Charles

 Batavia, Geneva, North Aurora and St. Charles propose multi-community Homes for a Changing Region study. Specifically, they request an analysis of existing housing, forecast of housing needs in each community, and policy and strategy recommendations to needs.

North Aurora

• Village wishes to heavily **invest in non-motorized transportation infrastructure to provide linkages to commercial centers**. Proposed study will link high population densities to alternative transportation modes, amend related zoning ordinance text to reflect land use changes, and amend the land use plan to include bikeway and open space elements as well as show future roads and alignments to improve the roadway network with the inclusion of public transit centers. The project will link the Village's 2006 Comprehensive Plan with its recently updated Zoning Ordinance. *This application was submitted for grant funding under the Community Planning program*.

South Elgin

• **Development of a bicycle and pedestrian plan**, as recommended by Village's recent comprehensive plan and transit improvement plan. Pedestrian infrastructure was found to be lacking or non-existent in parts of the Village, as were neighborhood connections to regional trails such as the Fox River Trail and Illinois Prairie Path.

Kendall County

Oswego

• **Village-wide market analysis** to determine retail, commercial, and industrial uses that will be most beneficial to the community. Village also interested in review of past economic development efforts to identify best practices.

Lake County

Lake County Department of Transportation

• Comprehensive land use plan for the area affected by the Illinois Route 53/120 project. This plan was recommended by the Illinois 53/120 Blue Ribbon Advisory Council, and includes numerous communities in central Lake County.

Lake County Forest Preserve District

Planning assistance in conversion of public lands to local food production utilizing
sustainable farming practices and promotion of improved conservation practices for
conventional row-crop agriculture. A wide variety of public, private, and nonprofit
partners have been identified. Propose recommendations that each participating agency
can adopt to promote local food production and sustainable agricultural practices on
public lands at a regional scale.

Lake Zurich

Implementation assistance regarding Recommendations for Integrated Water
Resources Planning in Lake Zurich, a 2012 report completed through the LTA program.
Village has selected two provisions in the report – integration of green infrastructure
and defining a level of service for municipal water delivery – as focus of continued
work.

Waukegan, North Chicago, Park City, and Zion

• Homes for a Changing Region housing plan to address a number of housing-related challenges in the member communities, including foreclosures and vacant and abandoned buildings. Also request for design visualizations for each community, with a 3-D flyover and 2-D photomorph. The application was led by Waukegan, with participation from North Chicago, Park City, Zion and Great Lake Naval Station.

McHenry County

Silver Creek Watershed Coalition

Implementation of recommendations in December 2011 Watershed Action Plan,
prepared by CMAP. To include review and modifications of relevant policies in
comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, stormwater management plans, and other
municipal documents for participants. Communities involved include Crystal Lake,
McHenry, Oakwood Hills, and Prairie Grove.

Will County

Will County

• **Develop inventory of brownfield parcels in Will County**, as well as evaluation criteria to be used to assess each site's potential for use for renewable energy production.

Regional or multiple geographies

Cook County

- Bureau of Economic Development, Department of Planning & Development:
 Development of HUD Consolidated Plan (housing). Cook County is required to prepare and submit a Consolidated Plan at least every five years to HUD.
- Cook County Forest Preserve District: **Trail usage study**, will analyze a linear trail such as the North Branch and a circular trail such as the one in Tinley Park; extrapolate information for other trail systems in the District.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), Office of Water Resources (OWR)

 IDNR, OWR is the regulatory agency responsible for managing the Illinois diversion of Lake Michigan, overseeing approximately 200 permittees with an allocation of Lake Michigan water for domestic pumpage. Of these, over 160 permittees are municipal-run public water suppliers. IDNR, OWR proposes consultation with six or more permittees regarding constraints and reasons for chronic noncompliance with regard to annual water loss. Strategic partner is the Center for Neighborhood Technology (CNT).

Metropolitan Mayors Caucus

• Creation of toolkit for municipalities to address diversity needs in their communities; a follow-up to previous survey distributed to suburban mayors, which resulted in a collection of current practices. This "how to" guide would help municipalities better integrate immigrants into the civic life of their communities.

Northwest Water Planning Alliance

• Ongoing support, including rewrite of drought preparedness plan. Also, development of school education program as recommended in Water 2050 plan, and outreach around the new lawn-watering restriction to be in effect 2013. This multijurisdictional group includes many partners, including five Counties and five COGs.

Openlands

Planning for a viable regional food system. To include examination of existing
resources, potential costs and benefits, identification of obstacles and implementation
strategy. The project includes Kane, Lake, and McHenry Counties as partners, as well as
nonprofit organizations.